



City of Arts & Innovation

# News Release

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**Contact:**

Phil Pitchford

Communications Officer

951-826-5975

[ppitchford@riversideca.gov](mailto:ppitchford@riversideca.gov)

**Riverside Mayor Rusty Bailey to Deliver “State of the City” Address Jan. 19**

*Mayor to emphasize power of partnerships, note City’s accomplishments in 40<sup>th</sup> annual event*

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Riverside Mayor Rusty Bailey will emphasize the power of partnerships when he delivers the 40<sup>th</sup> annual State of the City address at the Riverside Convention Center on Jan. 19.

The State of the City event, produced by the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce in partnership with the City of Riverside, combines a review of the prior year’s accomplishments with an outline of major issues facing Riverside in 2017. The speech will be Mayor Bailey’s first of his second term.

“As I began drafting this year’s State of the City address, I was struck by what a powerful role that partnerships play in making great things happen in Riverside,” Mayor Bailey said. “Whether it is in government, business or education, Riverside is a special place because of our ability to work together as servant leaders, entrepreneurs, educators and community advocates.”

This year’s State of the City address will include a new format, in which Mayor Bailey welcomes a handful of community leaders to the stage to discuss how effective partnerships have helped them drive success in their organizations.

Panelists will include: Jerry Tessier, President of Arteco Partners, which is developing an innovative food hall called Riverside Food Lab adjacent to the historic Fox Theater; Renee Hill, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Support, Riverside Unified School District; Damien O’Farrell, Chief Executive Officer, Path of Life Ministries; and Drew Oberjurgue, Executive Director, Riverside Art Museum.

Mayor Bailey will announce the winner of the second annual Dr. Carlos E. Cortés Award for Championing Diversity and Inclusivity, named for the Professor Emeritus of History at UC Riverside who has been a lifetime advocate of the importance of diversity and the need for inclusivity. The award recognizes actions taken toward furthering the City of Riverside’s pledge to build a more inclusive community.

“The State of the City address is one of the biggest events of the year in the City of Riverside,” Mayor Pro Tem Mike Gardner said. “It is a great opportunity to hear about how much has been accomplished in the past year and get a preview of the year to come.”

The Chamber will present the Riverside Hero Award and announce winners of the Beautification Awards from Keep Riverside Clean & Beautiful.

Guest check-in begins at 5 p.m., and the program is scheduled to start at 5:30. General admission seating is free. Reserved seating is available for \$50 and includes a ticket to the reception after the speech.

Individual tickets can be purchased at the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce’s online store at [www.riverside-chamber.com](http://www.riverside-chamber.com) or by calling 951-683-7100.